

# Changing Education and Practice of Law: The Seven Principles For Good Practice in [Asynchronous Online] Legal Education

By Kenneth R. Swift. 44 Mitchell Hamline L. Rev. 105 (2018).

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## **Reviewer's Summary:**

In this article, Swift discusses his experiences teaching two law school courses, one doctrinal and one skills-based, Employment Law and Transactional Drafting, in asynchronous online formats. He discusses these courses in the context of the Institute for Law School Teaching's "Seven Principles for Good Practice in Legal Education," emphasizing the following principles: (2) encourages cooperation among students, (3) encourages active learning, and (4) gives prompt feedback. Swift describes ways in which his courses embrace each of these principles, and finds that in certain respects, online courses offer unique benefits for students as compared to in-person instruction. For example, in the context of active learning, Swift describes his questions posed to students in weekly learning activities, requiring all students to actively engage with the material, contrasting this with in-person classes for which some students may arrive unprepared, or may become distracted when they are not called on to respond to instructor questions.

**Summarized by:** Meredith Capps, Vanderbilt University Law School, in 2020.